

Annual Report

GREENVILLE, NC POLICE



**2024 Year in Review:
A Safer, Stronger Greenville**



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From innovation on the streets to compassion in the community, the Greenville Police Department marked 2024 as a year of transformation and tenacity. Amid the backdrop of a growing city, the department continued to adapt, evolve, and lead with purpose. What follows is a look back at the stories, strategies, and standout moments that defined the year.

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From the Chief

As Chief of Police, I have the honor of witnessing the heartbeat of this department every day—officers responding to crises, staff innovating behind the scenes, and community members standing beside us in the pursuit of a safer Greenville.

This past year reminded us of both the weight and the worth of this profession. From courageous moments on the front lines to quiet, unseen acts of service, the men and women of the Greenville Police Department continually demonstrated what it means to serve with integrity, empathy, and resolve.

We embraced change through the launch of new initiatives like our Civilian Crash Investigators and enhanced our technology with tools that allow us to be smarter, faster, and more transparent. We deepened partnerships across the community, listened with intent, and responded with action. And we faced moments of adversity with unity, never losing sight of the people we protect.

At the core of it all is a simple truth: public safety is personal. It's about the child who feels safe walking to school, the neighbor who waves as a patrol car drives by, and the family who knows we'll be there when it matters most.

I'm proud of the strides we made in 2024, and even prouder of the people behind them. As we look ahead, we do so with clarity of mission and unwavering commitment to the city we serve.

Thank you for your trust, your support, and your partnership.

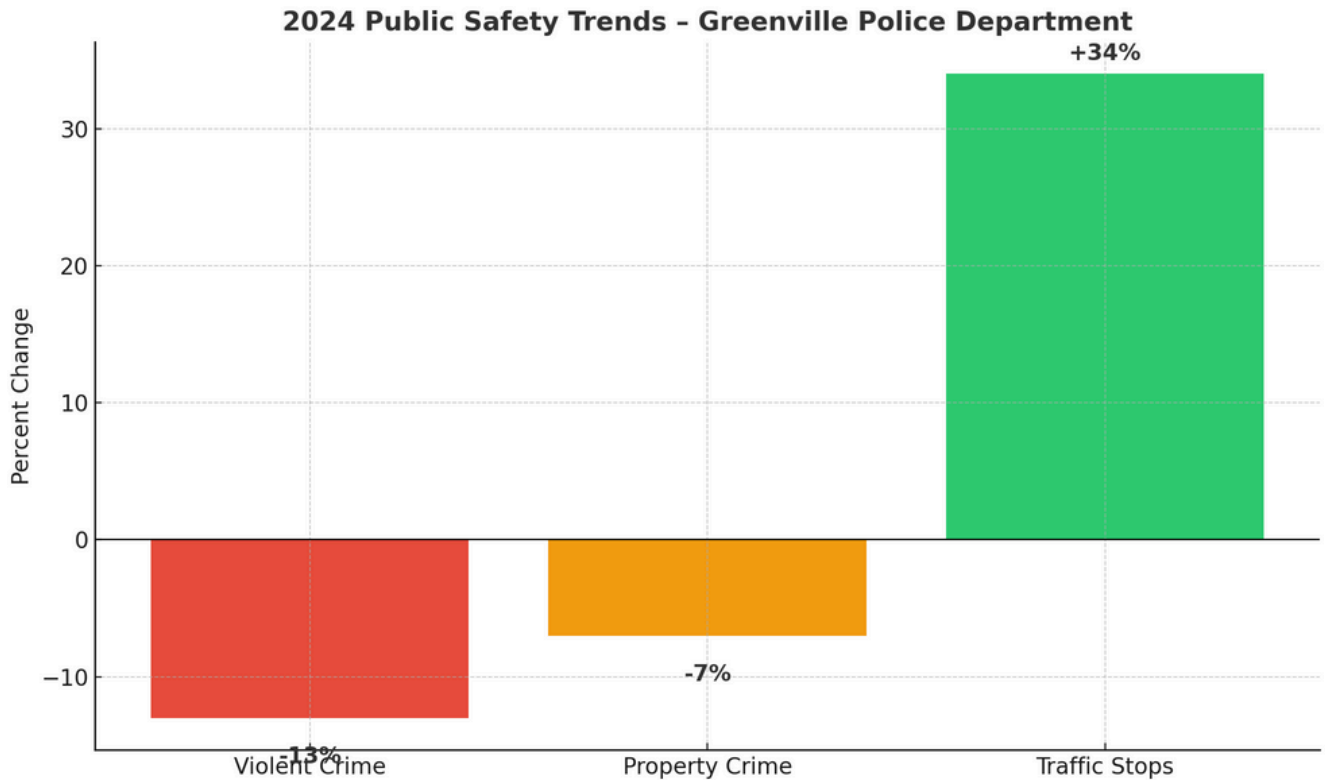
With gratitude,

Richard Tyndall

Chief of Police



Crime and Crash Stats



Public safety begins with progress you can measure—and in 2024, Greenville saw encouraging trends across the board.

Violent crime dropped 13%, a significant milestone marked by notable reductions in robbery and rape cases. At the same time, property crime declined by 7%, continuing a multi-year pattern of steady improvement across the city. These numbers reflect not only effective policing but also the impact of community partnerships and proactive engagement. In traffic enforcement, GPD increased traffic stops by 34% over the previous year, signaling a renewed emphasis on visibility and safety. Special attention was placed on pedestrian safety, with a three-pronged strategy of education, engineering, and enforcement aimed at reducing injury incidents and protecting the most vulnerable road users.



Civilian Crash Investigators: A Smarter Approach to Traffic Response

In May, GPD launched an initiative that will redefine how the city handles non-injury traffic incidents. The introduction of Civilian Crash Investigators (CCI) has added a new layer of efficiency to the department's traffic response model.

These trained professionals—several of whom bring prior law enforcement experience—respond to crashes involving only property damage. Their role allows sworn officers to remain focused on emergencies and proactive enforcement efforts, while CCIs handle the frequent, often time-consuming crashes that occur daily. Although they do not carry weapons or have the authority to arrest or issue citations,

Civilian Crash Investigators are trained and certified to complete full crash reports, just like an officer would. Their deployment is made possible by House Bill 140, signed into law in 2023, which authorizes municipalities across North Carolina to use civilian personnel for crash investigations. Greenville now joins cities like Wilmington, Burlington, and Charlotte in embracing this model—one that prioritizes both efficiency and safety.





Fighting Gun Violence and Drugs: A Tactical and Team-Based Approach

With gun violence and illegal narcotics posing ongoing threats in communities nationwide, GPD responded with urgency and strategy.

The department employed intelligence-led patrols, data-driven deployments, and targeted saturation initiatives to address high-crime areas. Working in close coordination with regional and federal partners, officers conducted focused narcotics investigations and launched public awareness campaigns on safe firearm storage and responsible gun ownership.

The result? Not just arrests, but prevention. Not just response, but resilience.

Continued...



Leading this charge was GPD's Major Crimes Unit, whose work earned them the prestigious Meritorious Police Duty Award. The team achieved a 100% homicide clearance rate in 2024 and solved four long-standing cold cases, bringing long-overdue justice to victims' families.

One standout partner in this success was District Attorney Investigator Veronica Johnson, honored with a Chief's Award for her tireless support. Known affectionately within GPD as the "sixth detective," Johnson exemplifies the power of collaboration in solving complex cases.



In the Face of Danger: Bravery in the Line of Duty





“Our officers go to work each day ready to protect and serve—but no one expects to be shot doing their job.”

In one of the year’s most sobering moments, Officer Jeremiah Lovelace was shot while responding to a domestic disturbance on Glen Dale Drive. An eight-year veteran of the department, Officer Lovelace’s quick thinking, training, and courage—alongside that of his fellow officers—helped ensure his survival. While he is now recovering at home, the emotional toll of that night will remain with him and his colleagues for years to come.

“Our officers go to work each day ready to protect and serve—but no one expects to be shot doing their job,” said Chief Ted Sauls. “It is unacceptable. The effects of that moment will ripple through the lives of those on scene and the families waiting for them to come home.”

Officer Lovelace’s story is a reminder of the real risks officers face daily—and the strength it takes to return to duty with courage and resolve.

ACCOUNTABILITY IN ACTION: GPD INTERNAL AFFAIRS REPORT

A TRANSPARENT LOOK AT INVESTIGATIONS, DISCIPLINE, AND INTEGRITY IN 2024

The Greenville Police Department (GPD) holds itself to the highest professional standards—and that includes how it handles complaints and allegations of officer misconduct. In 2024, the Office of Internal Affairs (IA) continued to play a crucial role in maintaining that standard by ensuring every concern was investigated thoroughly, fairly, and impartially.

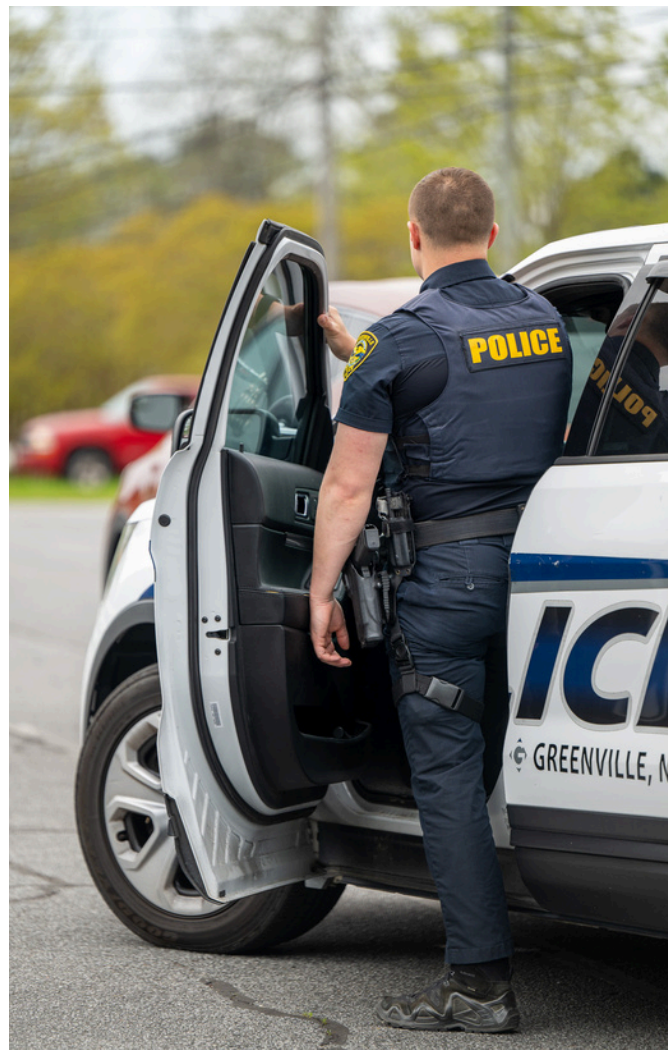
Investigations at a Glance

Over the past year, GPD conducted 42 Internal Affairs investigations and documented 78 total alleged policy violations, which included both formal investigations and Non-Investigative Matters (NIMs). NIMs allow supervisors to address minor infractions early, before they rise to the level of formal discipline—an approach that demonstrates both leadership accountability and a proactive commitment to improvement.

Of the 77 documented allegations, the breakdown of findings was as follows:

- Sustained: 17
- Exonerated: 19
- Unfounded: 4
- Not Sustained: 3
- NIM Dispositions: 10
- Inquiries Only: 20

This year's data represents a continued emphasis on supervision, training, and the early identification of potential problems before they escalate.





Discipline Rooted in Fairness

Disciplinary actions in 2024 were proportional, fair, and consistent with GPD policy. The most common outcome was no action necessary (48 cases), a reflection of either exoneration or insufficient evidence. When disciplinary measures were warranted, they included:

- Written Reprimands: 3
- Written Counseling: 7
- Remedial Training: 3
- Shift-Level Counseling: 2
-

These interventions underscore GPD's emphasis on corrective action over punitive measures whenever possible, in line with best practices in modern policing.

Most Common Allegations

Policy violations fell into a wide range of categories, with safety rule violations (15) and professional demeanor concerns (9) topping the list. Allegations of excessive force (7) were down by more than half compared to 2023, continuing a positive trend. Other concerns involved poor judgment, illegal search, and unexcused absences or tardiness.

Notably, the department investigated three firearms discharge incidents, all of which were found to be lawful, with no injuries reported. Body-worn camera (BWC) footage played a pivotal role in the resolution of these and other investigations.

Body-Worn Cameras: A Game Changer

In 21 of the 42 investigations, body-worn cameras provided critical clarity. In more than half of those cases, the footage directly supported the officer's account—leading to findings of “exonerated” or “unfounded.” In the remaining cases, the footage helped substantiate the complaint, showcasing the technology's vital role in supporting both officer accountability and public trust.

Context Matters

To put these numbers in perspective:

In 2024, GPD documented 89,500 total citizen contacts—ranging from calls for service and traffic stops to officer-initiated activity. Out of those, only 18 external complaints were received. That equates to just 0.0006% of all interactions resulting in a formal citizen complaint—a remarkable metric that speaks to the professionalism and restraint demonstrated by GPD officers.

Similarly, of the 2,996 arrests made last year, only five resulted in complaints, highlighting the department's commitment to de-escalation and respectful engagement.

Trends and Progress

While the number of total policy violations rose slightly compared to 2023 (77 vs. 84), serious misconduct remained low. In fact, categories like excessive force, written reprimands, and shift-level counseling all decreased. Internal oversight is trending more proactive, with increased use of NIMs reflecting a stronger supervisory culture.



PUBLIC SAFETY THROUGH PUBLIC CONNECTION



At GPD, public safety is more than patrols and reports—it's about relationships. In 2024, the department redoubled its efforts to build trust through sustained community engagement. Programs like the Neighborhood Policing Unit worked street by street to build rapport and solve problems in partnership with residents.

The Greenville Citizens Academy invited locals to experience a behind-the-scenes look at policing—enhancing transparency and mutual understanding.

Youth outreach events, collaborative forums, and ongoing data-sharing practices ensured that GPD remained accessible, informed, and deeply connected to the community it serves.

Remembering K9 Nitro: A Legacy of Loyalty and Service

November brought a heartbreaking loss with the passing of K9 Nitro, the department's first explosive detection dog. With his handler, Officer Bobby Parker, Nitro served Greenville for 11 years—sweeping for threats at football games, school campuses, presidential visits, and regional events.

Beloved for his gentle temperament and unrelenting work ethic, Nitro retired after a cancer diagnosis and passed away just shy of his 13th birthday. His legacy lives on through his canine siblings: Bruno, a narcotics K9, and Phoenix, who will become the department's first female explosive detection dog.

K9 Nitro will forever be remembered as a pioneer, protector, and cherished member of the GPD family.



HONORING OUR OWN: EXCELLENCE IN ACTION



Each year, GPD recognizes the individuals whose dedication, talent, and heart elevate our entire department. In 2024, we celebrated:

Officer of the Year: Detective Patrick Reichstein

- Known for his relentless work ethic and unmatched energy, Detective Reichstein has become a cornerstone of investigative success. Whether tackling complex cases or supporting colleagues, his commitment is unwavering.

Telecommunicator of the Year: Keaton Allen

- Much more than a voice on the radio, Keaton is a master of camera systems and surveillance support—often playing a key role in solving cases. His calm under pressure and team-first attitude make him an indispensable asset.

Professional Staff Member of the Year: Forensic Investigator Kelly Farley

- The first non-sworn forensic investigator hired by GPD, Kelly's journey from intern to integral team member is a testament to her expertise and drive. Her work has dramatically strengthened the department's scientific capabilities.

Beyond the Badge: Community Champions



In a celebration that went well beyond the station walls, Detective Brandon Peebles helped coach the Pitt County 12u Softball Team to victory in the Little League Softball World Series—earning the title of World Champions. GPD is proud to cheer on our officers both in and out of uniform!



*LLWS Softball
Champions Tour*

WHITE HOUSE VISIT

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24TH, 2024
WASHINGTON, D.C.

ANSWERING THE CALL: MUTUAL AID AND REGIONAL SUPPORT



When Hurricane Helene devastated parts of western North Carolina, GPD answered the call. Officers deployed to assist in search and rescue efforts, delivering supplies gathered through a community drive in partnership with Ignite Church. It was a reminder that service doesn't stop at city limits.







Looking Ahead: Innovation with Integrity

As Greenville continues to grow, GPD remains committed to evolving with it—embracing new technologies while staying grounded in values that never change. From deploying drones to investing in virtual response capabilities, the department is shaping a future of policing that is smart, responsive, and human-centered.

But ultimately, the most powerful tool remains people. The progress made in 2024 is the result of dedicated professionals, strong community partnerships, and a shared belief that safety is everyone's responsibility.

Together, we are building a Greenville where every neighbor feels protected, connected, and heard.

Together, we are GPD.



Greenville
NORTH CAROLINA

POLICE DEPARTMENT